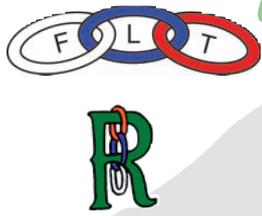


# THE



# Washington ODD FELLOW



MARCH, 2017

Official Publication of All Units of The Order

VOLUME 126 • NUMBER 3



Pat Aichele of Integrity Rebekah Lodge #175 invited Members of Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2 in Walla Walla to a Valentine's Day celebration at the Odd Fellows Hall,

209 N. Main Street in Milton-Freewater, Oregon. Members of both lodges enjoyed the lunch and meeting, and said, "Let's do it again!"

## *In Walla Walla*

# Narcissa Rebekahs make a trek to Oregon

Pink roses and lace tablecloths set the theme for a St. Valentine's Day Party at the Odd Fellows Hall in Milton-Freewater, Oregon. Members of Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2 were greeted at noon by our energetic hosts from Integrity Lodge #175. After greetings and introductions, we were treated to a tour of the hall and racks of beautiful quilts up for sale — or to go to the lucky winner of a raffle.

Integrity members provided a delicious buffet lunch of pumpkin soup, tuna casserole, a variety of salads, and

biscuits. Dessert featured apple cake with rum sauce, a selection of chocolate and sugar cookies, and Hershey kisses. Everyone enjoyed coffee or tea, and the good conversation that followed.

Our lodge was invited to join with Integrity Lodge for the meeting at 1 p.m. We were received by Noble Grand Nancy Mills, Vice Grand Theresa Weaver, Secretary Pat Aichele, and Treasurer Mary Lou Ethlin. Our gratitude for their hospitality was expressed by Narcissa Rebekah

*Continued on Page 4*

# From the desk of your Grand Master

## PLEASE ATTEND GRAND LODGE SESSIONS

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

Well spring is coming up fast and we are getting into the preparations for our Grand Lodge Sessions in June. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all lodges to elect and send your Representatives. We need your participation. After all, the Grand Lodge of Washington includes every single member of every lodge. Come and let your voice be heard! There may be a committee that you would like to take part in — Arthritis, Vision, UNP or one of the others. There are also some exciting changes we are proposing. You have a right to cast your vote as a Representative and always have the right to speak your piece.



DUARD FYFFE

Our Historical Committee has asked me to spread the word that they have a sizeable stock of lodge supplies — particularly working and Degree paraphernalia. If your lodge is in need of anything, please contact them through the Grand Lodge office with a list of what you require and they will see what can be done to help you.

The second half of my Official Visits is getting underway. I certainly hope that I get to meet as many of you as possible! Here are the upcoming dates through April.

## LODGE SUPPLIES, ETC.

The second half of my Official Visits is getting underway. I certainly hope that I get to meet as many of you as possible! Here are the upcoming dates through April.

## MARCH VISITS

- 2 — Visitation to Red Apple IOOF Lodge #276  
In Grandview, 8 pm

- 4 — Planning Board and JJYC Meetings in Yakima
- 7 — Visitation to Ellensburg IOOF Lodge #20,  
7:30 pm
- 13 — Visitation to Samaritan IOOF Lodge #52  
In Spokane, 7 pm
- 14 — Visitation to Hunters IOOF Lodge #216, 7 pm
- 15 — Visitation to Rosalia IOOF Lodge #110, 7 pm
- 21 — Visitation to Vancouver IOOF Lodge #3, 7 pm
- 23 — Visitation to Pilgrim IOOF Lodge #187  
In Everett, 1 pm
- 28 — Visitation to Silvia IOOF Lodge #28,  
In Montesano, 7 pm

## APRIL VISITS

- 4 — Visitation to Goodwill IOOF Lodge #188  
In White Salmon, 7 pm
- 7 - 9 — Northwest Odd Fellow / Rebekah  
Association  
Meeting in Post Falls, Idaho
- 11 — Visitation to Washougal IOOF Lodge #194  
In Washougal, 7 pm
- 17 — Visitation to Centennial IOOF Lodge #341  
In Moses Lake, 8 pm
- 18 — Visitation to Richland IOOF Lodge #338  
In Richland, 8 pm
- 26 — Visitation to Mt. Constitution IOOF Lodge  
#88 on Orcas Island, 7:30 pm

— *In Friendship, Love and Truth,*  
*Your Humble & Obedient Servant, Duard Fyffe,*  
*Your 2016-2017 Grand Master*

1821 S. 92nd St.  
Tacoma, Wa 98444

amtdewey@gmail.com  
(253) 282-3472 call or text

# Theta Rho Retreat set in Olympia soon

## TO ALL THETA RHO CLUBS IN WASHINGTON & OREGON

Dear Members,

The Joint Youth Committee (JYC) will be hosting a Theta Rho Retreat Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 31, April 1 and 2 at the Olympia Odd Fellows Park in Olympia WA.

Meals will be provided. Please bring sleeping bags, air mattress, cots, etc., as we'll be camped out in the kitchen and it has a cement floor. There are bathrooms with showers available.

We'll have games and team building events for the girls and advisors. We'll also be going over officer duties to prepare for Sessions in June.

Please contact the Chairman or myself with an RSVP of yea or nay.

If you have any questions, please contact Chairman John Otterstrom at:

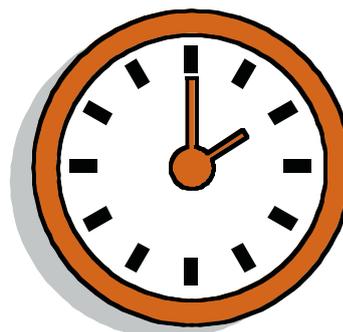
**fr8dude65@comcast.net**

or myself at:

**laureljdemony@gmail.com**

We hope to see you there!

— *In Happiness Through Service, Laurel, Secretary*



*Turn Your  
Clocks  
Ahead*

**Sunday, March 12**

# From the desk of your Grand Secretary

## 2017 GRAND SESSIONS IN YAKIMA

Brothers and Sisters,

The 2017 Grand Sessions will be upon us very soon. We think thank those lodges that have sent in their Representative Certificates already. To those lodges that have not done so yet, please send them in now. The Grand Master needs them in order that he may make committee assignments for the Grand Sessions to be held June 26, 27 and 28.



HARRY W.  
"BILL" COULTER

### REMEMBER OUR CHARITIES

The continued support of the projects and programs of our Order is needed and they are valued. These include: Living Legacy, SOS Children's Village, the Arthritis Foundation and the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth. In our Jurisdiction, we have Visual Aid for children, the L. J. Jones Scholarships, and the Theta Rho Girls' Club Travel Fund to support. The Grand Encampment has the VanderLinden/Sheppard Adult Visual Aid Fund. To all, please consider them for

your support. All of them are fine programs.

### REMEMBER

To All Grand Lodge Executive Elective Officers and Grand Lodge Committee Chairmen, your reports are due by Friday, March 31 to allow for printing in the "Take Me" Advance Reports for the Grand Lodge Sessions.

### TO ALL UNITS OF THE ORDER

Annual Grand Lodge Sessions registration information will be in the April and May issues of the Washington OddFellow. Please note that registrations are again being handled by Joe Picanco, PGM, and Kathi Picanco, RAP, both from Olympia IOOF Lodge #1. All forms and payments are to be sent to them.

### WEBSITE

Our new website is in its final stages. I will be making updates to the information that is listed on the old website. Should there be any corrections that you know of, please send them to this office, either by Email: **grand-sec@qwestoffice.net**; Fax: (360) 829-1768; or mail: PO Box 377, Buckley, WA 98321-0377.

— *Fraternally,*  
Harry W. "Bill" Coulter,  
PGM, Grand Secretary

## Seven receive Degrees at Yakima Lodge #22!

On February 19, members at Yakima IOOF Lodge #22 held a Degree Day for seven candidates. Those receiving Degrees were one from Yakima and four from Excelsior IOOF Lodge #111 — from the Initiatory Degree through the 3rd Degree — and two more from Alimus IOOF Lodge #15 from the 1st Degree through the 3rd Degree.

Members of the Yakima Lodge generously supplied lunch for all of the Brothers and Sisters in attendance.

Also present and helping to flush out the ranks for the Degree Team were a number of members who had made the trek from the west side of the mountains. The weather looked favorably upon us and the roads were bare and wet going across the pass.

## ~ In Memoriam ~

- **Bruce Kenyon**, 65 year member, Past Grand Ruler of the Grand Junior Lodge of Washington, PG, member of Bothell IOOF Lodge #124 in Bothell, WA.
- **Herbert Lavin**, 22 year member, Vancouver IOOF Lodge #3, Vancouver, WA.
- **Mae Colorossi**, 98 years old, PNG, 68 year member, Rainbow Rebekah Lodge #31 in Orting, WA and Eola Rebekah Lodge #63 in Buckley, WA.
- **Betty Haines**, 99 years old, PNG, 39 year member, Oak Leaf Rebekah Lodge #254, Oak Harbor.

*We Will Miss Our  
Brothers & Sisters*

Member of I.O.O.F. International  
Press Association 

**Washington ODDFELLOW**

Published every month except July and August at  
Buckley, Washington by the Grand Lodge of Washington.  
Subscriptions Available. \$20.00 Per Year.  
Non-Profit Postage paid at Buckley, Washington.  
Deadline for Copy:  
In the Editor's Office By the 15th of each month.  
Mail Copy To: P.O. Box 377, Buckley, WA 98321-0377

Member 

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E-Mail To: billo@tx3.com  
Web Site: [www.ioofwa.org](http://www.ioofwa.org)  
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Devoted to the  
Interest of  
ODD FELLOWSHIP

# From the desk of the Assembly President

## LET THE SNOW BE GONE

Greetings Brothers & Sisters!

Can you believe that March is already here? By the time you read this the snow will be gone for most of you and the weather will be starting to warm up.



KATHI PICANCO

The Flu this year has hit a lot of us hard, even for those who had flu shots. I hope that this month finds you all well and waiting for spring to come soon.

## ELECTING REPRESENTATIVES

In February the lodges should have voted on their Representative and the Alternative. Lodges that have odd numbers will choose in even years and even numbered lodges will choose in odd years per the book of Instruction. This is a two-year commitment. Remind your Representatives that they have an obligation to be at the whole Session and

must bring back to their lodges a report of the work of the Sessions. We need the Representatives to attend so we can learn what is happen in the lodges and help those that that need assistance. One of the most important jobs of the Representatives is to vote for the incoming elected officers, and to sit on committees. Please take the time to come to Sessions. We need you!

## From your 2016-17 Theta Rho President

### BE SURE TO WEAR GREEN

Happy March everyone! I hope you've all had a great Valentine's day! Next up is Saint Patrick's Day! Wear that green!



CHRISTINA DIRKS

I want to remind everyone of my project — the Theta Rho Hotel Fund.

My home club, Spunky Bluebirds, ended February with Installation of Officers. It was fun. I'm ready for the next chapter of the year and I'm also ready to turn 19 on Monday, March 20. I recently landed a new job working in insurance and I'm excited to get out there and protect as many families as I can.

Anyway I hope you all have a safe and happy March.

*Lots of love  
And in Happiness Through Service  
And in F, L. & T., Christina Dirks,  
Theta Rho Assembly President  
Of Washington & Oregon*

## GET THOSE REPORTS IN

All lodges should by now have turned in The Report of Officers from the Installations, but we are still missing about half of those reports. District Deputies, please check with your lodges and make sure that the forms have been turned in. Thanks for the help. We are getting better, but more work getting reports in on time is needed.

## ASSISTING ONE ANOTHER

During my travels to the lodges, it's encouraging to see lodges assisting other lodges and members. That is what we do as Rebekahs — mentoring our members and sharing what we have learned. We will keep members by getting the paperwork done and the membership list updated. This helps update our members who may not be able to attend some meetings. This year we are losing two more lodges. It is so sad to see a lodge turn in its Charter.

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

A special shout out to the Grand Lodge Officers, Rebekah Assembly Executive Officers, District Deputy Presidents and my Appointed Officers — the President cannot have a successful year without the help of so many others. I thank you all for your support this year.

*— With Friendship, Love & Truth  
And Fraternal Hugs to all, Kathi Picanco, President,  
Rebekah Assembly of Washington*

## Narcissa Rebekahs #2

*Continued from Page 1*

Noble Grand Jeanne Elder. Vice Grand Shirley Ruble thanked our hosts for the generous luncheon and luscious dessert table.

Soon it was time to say our goodbyes, after having a great time and making new friends with our Oregon neighbors. As we went out the door, we could hear "Let's do this again!" Now we know what fun it is to make a visitation!

### GREEN AND LEAFY AN OLD IRISH BLESSING BRINGS LUCK TO YOU

*— In F, L. & T., Shirley Ruble, Reporter*

## Lodge Cards will return

Because of a lack of space this month, we were not able to published Lodge Cards. Your Lodge Card will be extended one month.

We are sorry for this inconvenience.

*Happy St. Pat's*

## From your Wardens

# Get involved in local community events

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters! March is here and for me, as a professional musician, that means I start booking gigs for my band at summer festivals for the year. For you, as a lodge member, it should mean something similar.

One of the biggest challenges we face as an Order is membership: We need to gain new members and retain existing members. One of the great ways to get new members is to participate in a

*Community Events!*



local fair or other community festival in your area.

While there are a lot of ways to passively get the word out about our lodges and what we do, there's nothing better or more effective than actively spreading the word about Odd Fellowship.

Participating in a local festival can take several forms: your lodge can volunteer to do various jobs at the festival, you can run an informational booth, you can march in a parade, you can run a concession stand, or you can host a performance stage. There are a whole bunch of different opportunities to get involved. It only depends on your lodge's abilities and the needs of your local festival.

One of the best things about getting involved in your local fair or festival is that it puts your lodge out in front of your friends and neighbors and gives you the opportunity to talk to them about Odd Fellowship. Before undertaking such public outreach, make sure you have something to say to all the people you're going to talk to. They'll most likely ask about what you do, how often you meet, and what kind of time commitment is expected. Be prepared with answers! Don't answer prospective members' questions with answers like, "We just sit around and argue about paying the phone bill" or "I don't know; I only show up a couple times a year." Tell them about the good projects of our Order and your local lodge. Let them know how much you look forward to attending lodge meetings every couple of weeks. Tell them about the feeling of brotherhood that you enjoy in your own lodge.

Every area has their own festival, no matter how big or small. Seattle's Ballard neighborhood has the Seafood Festival. Bickleton has the Pioneer Picnic and Car Show. McCleary has the Bear Festival. Toledo has Cheese Days. Port Townsend has the Jefferson County Fair. Chehalis has the Garlic Festival. Edison has the Bird Festival. Olympia has Lakefair. Poulsbo has the Viking Fest. Port Angeles has the Juan de Fuca Festival. Mossyrock has the Blueberry Festival. Odessa has the Deutschesfest. Get out there and get involved with your local festival and make sure you're letting the community know about your lodge. Keep in mind, though, that it will take a concerted effort to get new

members; they generally don't just show up after your first appearance in a festival. It may take a couple years of participation before you get a steady stream of members joining your lodge.

Getting involved in a local festival or fair is incredibly rewarding for your current members and can also lead new people to join your lodge. If you have any further questions about participating in your local event or just finding out what that event might be, feel free to contact me. You can email me at [iooftoby@gmail.com](mailto:iooftoby@gmail.com) or give me a call on my cell phone at (206) 245-8207. I'll be happy to share the information I have.

Next month we're going to look at various ways of improving communications with members of your lodge.

— In F., L. & T., Toby Hanson and Jennie Reed

## Spring 2017 Northwest ODD FELLOW/REBEKAH ASSOCIATION MEETING

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
~ April 7, 8 & 9, 2017 ~

Red Lion Templin's  
On The River

404 E. 1st Ave., Post Falls, ID 83854

(208) 773-1611 or (800) 733-5466

Make Your Own Room Reservations Directly With  
The Hotel On Or Before March 10, 2017.

Room Rates Include Breakfast

**Room Rate: \$119.95**

### PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT(S) AND TITLES AS MANY AS NEEDED

IOOF \_\_\_\_\_ Rebekah \_\_\_\_\_ Encampment \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Registration Fee Per Person (All Units) \$15 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee At The Door \$20 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Lunch \$27 Per Person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Roasted Turkey Club Sandwich*

Saturday General Banquet \$36 Per Person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Herb Crusted Pork Loin*

Let us know if you are a Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY NIGHT'S BANQUET IS WESTERN ATTIRE (CASUAL)

**Total of Registration & Meal \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Make Checks Out To:

**Northwest Association Host Committee**

And Send It To Janette Weatherly,

5494 N. Martha Loop, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

If you have questions, please call Nancy Morris at (208) 772-3841

Or Janette Weatherly at (208) 664-0882

# From the desk of the Assembly Secretary

## LET'S INCREASE OUR MEMBERSHIP

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We enter the month of March with the hopes that the weather will improve and our membership will increase.

Membership is on a downhill trend and we must work to increase it if we are to sustain the Rebekah Lodges in our Jurisdiction. We are not alone, as other Jurisdictions are also having trouble sustaining their membership.

I do not have an answer to what needs to be done, but we do need to work together with the hopes of getting some new members who feel the same about our Order as we do.



MARCIA PRESLEY

## IT'S ARTHRITIS MONTH

The month of March is Odd Fellow and Rebekah Arthritis Month. All of the donations to the Arthritis Foundation stay in the State of Washington and a notification is sent to Sovereign Grand Lodge with the names of the lodges that donate to this fund. The SGL then issues the Certificates of Appreciation from the National Arthritis Foundation to those Rebekah Lodges that donate to this project and they are given to the IARA Representative at the IARA Sessions in August.

## SCHUYLER COLFAX DAY

Thursday, March 23 is Schuyler Colfax Day which honors the birthday of Schuyler Colfax, the founder of the Rebekah Degree which was adopted in 1851. Take a minute during your meeting to acknowledge him for what he gave us.

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time will start on Sunday, March 12 — that is, if it is decided to continue with turning our clocks up one hour or discontinue this time change. We will have to wait and see what the State of Washington decides in the Legislature meeting in Olympia. I enjoy having an extra hour of daylight, but “who am I?”

Be sure that you wear green on St. Patrick's Day on Friday, March 17, or you may get pinched. Sounds like fun to me.

## PLEASE DRAPE YOUR CHARTERS

I am asking all of the Rebekah Lodges to drape their Charters for 30 days during the Month of March in the memory of two of the IARA Past Presidents who have passed away. Sister Lucille Mulligan, PP-IARA in 1979-1980 passed away December 16, 2016; and Sister Anna Lee Lockhart, PP-IARA in 1978-1979. she was 99 years young when she passed away on February 11, 2017. Thank you for doing this in their memory.

I leave you with this poem:

## TWO SIDES OF THE COIN

*Always remember to forget  
The things that made you sad,  
But never forget to remember  
The things that made you glad.  
Always remember to forget  
The friends who proved untrue,  
But don't forget to remember  
Those who stuck with you.  
Always remember to forget  
The troubles that passed away,  
But never forget to remember  
The blessings that came each day.*

— With lots of Rebekah Hugs,  
In Friendship, Love and Truth

Marcia Presley, Past President, Secretary

## District #18 hosts a lively meeting!!

Because of the snow and illness, our District #18 Meeting was postponed to Sunday, January 22.

A delicious meatloaf luncheon was sewed. Thank you, cooks!

A pretty vase was raffled off and a sizable donation was earned. Proceeds go to Rebekah Assembly President Kathi Picanco's project — Fisher House. Winner of the raffle was Donald Cowdery. I enjoyed talking to him and I told him I liked his tie. It was a Navy Veteran the tie made him look very official. Besides being a dedicated Odd Fellow he is retired from the US Postal Service. I look unto up him with respect.

A card went around for Kathi Picanco who was very ill. It will be delivered by her husband, PGM Joe. I missed her and was sorry she could not come.

## TRINITY REBEKAH LODGE #179 NEWS

At a later meeting our Charter was draped in loving memory of Genevieve Halstead, Rebekah Assembly President in years 1991 and 1992. She was a dear Rebekah Sister.

Cookie Music and Alex Degoede are moving on to PNG again. She gladly passes on the duties to Elayne Novotny. Vice Grand is Linda Deem, Alberta Luurs is Secretary and Sandy Beane is Treasurer.

Elayne started off her busy year with a bake sale on Saturday, February 11 at the Napavine Ace Hardware.

Until next time, Trinity bids you a happy year of 2017.

In F., L. & T., Cookie Music, News Reporter

See Photos on Page 7

# From your 2016-17 Grand Patriarch

## THE BLESSINGS OF SPRING

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters!

Spring is just around the corner with the Equinox on Monday, March 20. The days will be getting noticeably longer, the flowers will be blooming and the earth will be “springing” back to life. It is a good time to reflect on how we have grown and in which direction we look forward to growing in the future.



## HELLOS

Have you been giving your “hellos” to strangers? Did you see any growth from doing that?

Have you reached out to your community and grown your circle of connections and friends?

I have been meeting with the organizers of the Ballard Art Walk, which my Lodge has been participating in for a few years now. The previous administrators were not very responsive to the questions of participants. In their lack of response, the organizers in our lodge were feeling alone and disconnected from the community while making an effort to be involved. There is a new person organizing the event who is reaching out to participants and responding to communications and there is a renewed sense of growth around the monthly event.

## TRY SOMETHING NEW

If there is an event that has been ongoing at your lodge and there seems to be less involvement, try new things around it. Try those “it will never work” suggestions. Put a new spring into the old ways of getting things done — it helps keep people engaged to try different things and not keep doing things the same way because “that’s the way we’ve always done it.”

*In Faith, Hope and Charity,  
Nora Carria, Grand Patriarch  
Of the Grand Encampment of Washington*



This year both Cookie Music and Alex Degoede became Past Noble Grands. They are both ready to help the new 2017 Officers.



Don Cowdery, left, and Grand Treasurer Steve McCord, chat at the District #18 Meeting. Notice Don’s Navy tie and the pretty vase on the table that he won.



Two new Noble Grands, Scott Anderson and Shelly Patrick, share a moment at the District #18 Meeting. Scott is from Golden Rule IOOF Lodge #207 in Napavine and Shelly is from Pine Burr Rebekah Lodge #300 in Onalaska.

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## Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 & Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17

May the Luck of the Irish fill all our lodges with new projects and new members to keep things active.

This past month, Olympia #1 was honored to present the Humanitarian Award to Barney Wagner. Mr. Wagner was chosen for this recognition back in 2015, but several obstacles delayed our getting it to him. Sister Joanne Balmert was finally able to meet him in his office at Arrow Lumber in Buckley and make the presentation. Mr Wagner makes many anonymous donations and usually refuses recognition when his contributions are discovered. He is an asset to his community and we were privileged to present him with this award.

Several of our members attended the Spunky Bluebird Installation of Officers, and a few were invited to be part of the ceremony. Great job, girls. We know you will work hard to have a wonderful year.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, we will have conducted our first-Degree Night of the year. On Monday, March 6, we are planning to conduct the Initiatory and 1st Degree at the Olympia Lodge. If you read this prior to that date and have a candidate you would like to include, please contact Laurel Delony at [laureljdemony@gmail.com](mailto:laureljdemony@gmail.com).

Members of Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17 are busy collecting small toys and candy to fill eggs for Easter. We also need larger chocolate bunnies, toys, etc. for prizes. If you would like to contribute, please have items to our lodge prior to April 12. We have a large supply of plastic eggs to fill, so all donations are appreciated.

— *Fraternally in Friendship, Love and Truth,*  
Cathy Garcia, Reporter



Barney Wagner of Arrow Lumber in Buckley was presented the Humanitarian Award from members of Olympia IOOF Lodge #1